

Elk Point REVIEW

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Tuesday, February 5, 2008

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PM40007168 R10645

Town council
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Off to Provincials

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Students think
pink

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Vicki Brooker photo

Closeup look at Métis culture

Métis Nation of Alberta Region 2 president Karen Collins shows Elk Point Elementary School's Grade 5 students her traditional Métis Assomption sash, a treasured antique woven from fine threads in Oka, Quebec. Story and more photos, Page 7.

Social exam takes priority over snow day

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

It could have been an all-out snow day, but for some very determined F. G. Miller High School students, writing their diploma exam took priority.

Principal Colin Bjorkman was "quite impressed" by the turnout of Grade 12 students who made their way through the raging snowstorm and frigid weather to write their second of two Social Studies 30 and 33 diploma exams last Monday.

"Only two out of 25 couldn't make it in. The others were getting here all sorts of ways."

This was the final exam scheduled for the first semester of the 2007-08 school year, and "thank goodness the other exams were all the previous week," Bjorkman says. "The Grade 10s and 11s were done with their exams on the Friday."

For the two students who missed the exam, Bjorkman will "have to do an inclement weather exemption," which will allow those students' class work marks to be the primary factor in their final grade. Normally, the final grade is determined equally on the semester's class work and the exams, but since these students had written only Part A of their exam, Bjorkman said one-quarter of their final mark will come from the exam they wrote and three-quarters from their class work.

With Tuesday and Wednesday designated as semester break for the senior high students, and Thursday a day off for all Elk Point students and a professional development day for the teachers, Bjorkman says "it couldn't have been a better week" for the extreme cold and blustery weather. "The week before would have been a disaster. We got lucky this time."

With no school buses running on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, many of the junior high students at F. G. Miller also had an impromptu vacation last week, as did with their Elk Point Elementary School counterparts.

Only 24 EPE students made it to class on Monday, 62 on Tuesday and 50 on Wednesday.

Buses were back on the road Friday as the weather moderated slightly, just in time for the senior high students to start their new semester.

Lighting, power are major concerns for AOC

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

With the new Zamboni on its way and the new boiler to supply it with water all ready to be hooked up, the A. G. Ross Arena operating committee is looking toward the next priority: upgrading the lighting for the ice surface.

"That's the biggest thing," says AOC chairman Doug Bassett. "We need to save energy and improve the lighting." More energy-efficient lighting would help with the arena's "biggest killer," Bassett says. "We're paying \$6,000 to \$7,000 a month for power bills."

A major fundraising campaign yielded enough money to purchase the long-awaited Zamboni, and the AOC was able to find sufficient funds to purchase the \$8,500 boiler. Still,

it's an ongoing struggle to keep the arena in operation and at the same time, set aside funding for needed repairs and improvements, Bassett says.

The ice plant has recently been repaired, and the repairman feels it "will last for a while," Bassett says. "But one day it's going to go, who knows when, and we'll need to be prepared for that."

Not all the essential equipment is that big an investment, but still has the AOC wondering where the money will come from to replace it, Bassett says. "We need a new floor cleaning machine, and that's \$5,500. Our old one has been patched up, and it's running for now, but it's in bad shape."

Along with the necessities that keep the arena operating, the AOC would like to make some improvements. "We'd

like to insulate the north wall, and we want to build a heated viewing area for seniors and handicapped people who come to games and events. We also want to do some renovations at the front end, where the old washrooms were, but we have to do one thing at a time."

The search for funding is ongoing. Elk Point Minor Hockey is working a casino in the near future, Bassett says, and "they will use some of their proceeds to help us out." More help would be welcome.

With the Provincial PeeWee 'D' championship tournament coming up at the arena in mid-March, the AOC and Elk Point Minor Hockey will be working hard to make sure everything is in readiness to welcome guests from around the province to the A. G. Ross Arena.



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Council business as usual despite extreme cold

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Elk Point town council ignored the thermometer sitting at minus 36 degrees and an even worse wind chill buffeting the community last Monday as they continued their deliberations of the town's business.

Council approved an agreement to subdivide SE

12-57-7-W4 to allow them to sell 21 acres of undeveloped land west of the Peter Fidler statue to Winalta Homes, with the sale to take effect once the subdivision plan is registered.

Mayor Parrish Tung says he will be talking to the engineer this week about the second stage of the north subdivision, which

will include 27 residential lots.

Council moved to increase their grant to Elk Point Municipal Library by \$1,000 to cover the amount which has previously come from membership fees. The library board agreed at their January meeting to discontinue membership fees for town of Elk Point and county of St. Paul residents, in order to boost library use.

Elk Point Minor Hockey is hosting the 2008 Peeewe 'D' Provincials in March, and council approved the request from that group for 160 town pins to be given to the visiting teams.

An upcoming meeting with representatives of Pengrowth's Lindbergh pro-

ject was on council's agenda, and Mayor Tung says the meeting, which took place Thursday, was "very positive. Council is excited about Pengrowth. If everything works out, they could be in full production by 2012, and hopefully this would bring new people to Elk Point and area."

A resolution to enter into a 50-50 partnership with the County of St. Paul on a proposed new fire hall also gained council approval.

A two-month grace period was established for the payment of both business and dog licenses, after which penalties could come into effect for those who have not complied with the bylaws.

Provincial election called

Late on Monday afternoon, the Conservative government announced that a provincial election will be scheduled for March 3, a call which was met with eagerness by Alberta's political parties.

"We've seen an embarrassing spending spree from the Tories in the lead-up to this election call," said Liberal leader Kevin Taft in a press release. "We think Albertans have seen this too often to be fooled by it. These 'sudden priorities' needed attention years ago."

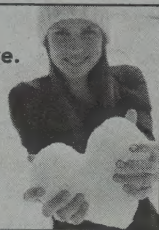
"We're ready for an election. It's time for an election."

In a teleconference, Premier Ed Stelmach said the current time is "exciting" for Alberta. "I feel incredibly privileged to be leading our province at a time like this," he said, adding that the government has a "clear plan" to turn its vision for Alberta into a future reality.

"Now it's time for Albertans to decide who they trust."

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Affordable housing for Fishing Lake

By JANANI WHITFIELD
Staff Writer

Sixteen communities in Alberta, including Fishing Lake Métis Settlement, will benefit from an infusion of more than \$16 million from the province to supply affordable housing to low-income Aboriginal families.

"Something this big is pretty awesome," said a gleeful Wayne Anderson,

public works and housing director for Fishing Lake. "I yelled over the moon when the government official phoned me. It was great."

Ryck Chalifoux, chairman of Fishing Lake Metis Settlement, added he wanted to thank the settlement's local MLA, Denis Ducharme, for "the support we received from him with the application and all the work he did."

Anderson had worked for two months on putting an application together and had requested support for 28 new housing units and seven townhouses, to meet the demand for 35 requests for affordable housing the previous year.

The province came through with a little more

than \$1.2 million to help put up 11 modular homes in the settlement, said Anderson.

The benefit will be 11 less homes that are needed for people living in houses that are overcrowded due to families living together, he said. Other housing problems on the settlement include families living in older homes that have poor insulation or which are not hooked up to water or sewer lines.

"Everything's got to be updated," Anderson said. He added that the settlement has its own budget, out of which it usually builds two or three houses a year, "but that's not really up to par." Since the government grant will only go so far, and since there is still more demand for hous-

ing, Anderson would like to see more money set aside for building housing.

The provincial funds announced for affordable housing come from year two of a three-year \$48 million Off-Reserve Aboriginal Housing Program that the Alberta government is delivering on behalf of the federal government. Under the program, the province allocates funding to priority affordable housing projects.

"Our government is proud to be a partner in increasing the supply and access to quality, affordable, sustainable housing for Aboriginals throughout our province," Ray Danyluk, minister of municipal affairs and housing, said in a press release.

Environmental group says provincial green plan falls short

By MALLORY HOULE
Staff Writer

Premier Ed Stelmach's recently released 'Green Plan' lacks a clear commitment to taking real action against greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, according to a senior policy analyst at the Pembina Institute.

"This plan just outlines more process and more planning," said Dan Woynillowicz. "In that regard, I think it will fall short of Alberta's expectations."

Last year, Ed Stelmach asked Environment

Minister Rob Renner to publish a successor to Alberta's 2002 climate change plan. Public consultations were conducted in 2007, during which residents called for a strengthened government approach to fight global warming. According to the Pembina website, particular points presented by the public included "absolute emission targets, stronger regulatory action, and the use of financial incentives and penalties."

Pembina argues that instead of outlining a clear plan to reduce GHG pollu-

tion, the province's "green plan" promises more planning regarding processes such as carbon capture and storage, conservation and efficiency and clean energy technologies.

In addition, the recently released plan effectively weakens the timeline for achieving reductions of GHG pollution when compared to the 2002 climate change plan, which promised to achieve absolute reductions in GHG before 2020.

"This new plan will not address emissions until 2020 and reductions won't occur until 2050," Woynillowicz said. "Stelmach's plan calls for a reduction of 14 per cent by 2050. The federal government has committed to reducing emission by 60 per cent. Alberta is not pulling its weight despite that fact that it's responsible for one-third of Canada's GHG emissions."

(Continued on Page 11)

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Teachers, boards ratify new agreement

By MALLORY HOULE

Staff Writer

Local school boards have ratified the new five-year collective agreements and education faculty members are anticipating reaping the benefits, according to the superintendent of East Central Francophone Education Region No. 3.

"It benefits us in many ways," explained Donald Michaud. "Because the agreement spans over five years, it means we vacate time so we can do other things."

Past agreements between the government and Alberta Teacher's Association (ATA) have lacked an expanded time frame—many have been created on an annual basis, ranging between one and two years in length.

"That used to mean that we had to invest time and energy conducting research," Michaud said, elaborating on the positive attributes of the new agreement. "Everyone is going to be focused on the quality of life and teaching. We're not going to be talking about labour issues and working conditions for at least the next four years, if not five."

Specific terms that are mentioned in the collective agreements include a five per cent increase in benefit coverage over five years for teachers, a three per cent increase to the salary grid, and a one-time bonus payment of \$1,500 to instructors. A committee has also been struck to analyze medical leave applications.

Perhaps the most notable component of the agreement is the resolution to the pre-1992 unfunded pension liability. Instructor contributions to pension plans are expected to be reduced by approximately 3.1 per cent.

"Before the deduction for pension was very high," said Jean Champagne, the secretary-treasure for St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1. "This resolution will bring it down to a more normal rate."

On a local level, benefit contributions will increase. Currently local boards cover 90 per cent of the benefit plan cost. By September 2009, that amount will increase to 95 per cent, according to figures presented by Champagne. In addition, over the five-year term that

ends in August 2012, a five per cent increase will be applied to health plan premiums.

"(By instituting this agreement) the province has created further labour stability and labour peace," Champagne said. "If there is any advantage to this agreement, that would be it."

"What the board has gained is a guaranteed five years of labour peace," added school board trustee Darrell Younghans.

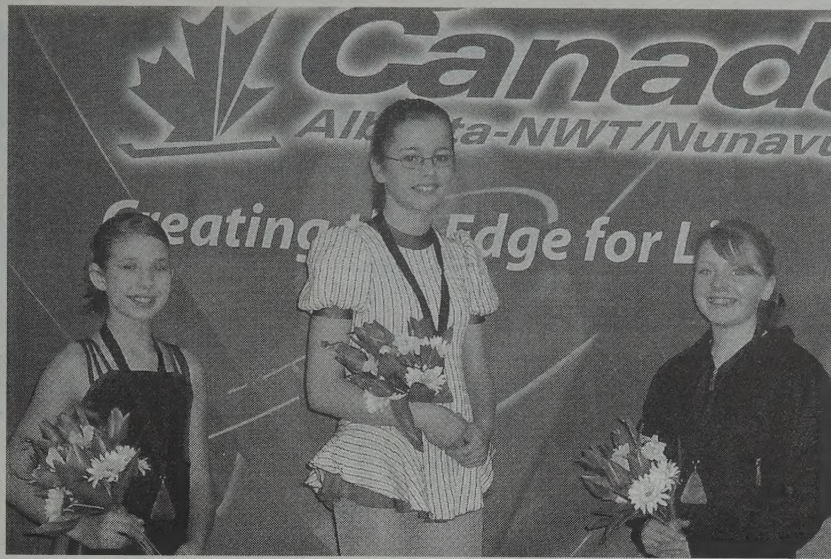


Photo contributed

Skater wins provincial bid

Elizabeth Orr earned a gold in Junior Bronze Skills in St. Paul and will be off to Rocky Mountain House the Feb. 28, 29 and March 1 for the Provincial Figure Skating Finals. A group of girls from Elk Point Skating Club will be attending the North East Open competition in Tofield from Feb. 22 to 24. Shown with their medals are, left to right Amber Leachman Lloydminster who won the bronze, Elizabeth Orr, winner of the gold and Sarah Monk of Beveridge who won silver.

Schools get modernization funding

By MALLORY HOULE

Staff Writer

After a long wait, Vilna and St. Paul-based schools were recently informed that they would be receiving provincial funds to give their schools much-needed upgrades.

Both the Aspen View Regional Division and St. Paul Education Regional Division will be receiving modernization funding as part of a \$190 million investment from the province's Capital Account. Plans for 20 infrastructure projects and the purchase of 20 new steel-framed modular classrooms across the province are already underway.

In St. Paul, Racette School, a Grade 6 to 9 program, and St. Paul Elementary School, a K to 5 program, will receive funding primarily to complete required upgrades as identified through facility audits completed on both schools.

The next step in the process is for Alberta Education staff to meet with the school board to finalize the overall scope of the project and allocate appropriate funding to the institution.

Darrell Younghans, chair of the St. Paul Education Regional Division, is anticipating the finalized plans for both St. Paul schools.

"We were very glad to hear that they had made the list," Younghans said. "We had expected to be hearing something."

Younghans added that the last year's flood at the St. Paul

Elementary School forced local officials to attempt to speed up the process for receiving modernization funding.

Thomas Wilkinson, principal at Vilna School, was ecstatic to receive the news of modernization funding for his school.

"It means a lot to the community as our population is increasing," Wilkinson said. "It just makes our school a more attractive environment for our students to learn and I feel it will be a bigger attraction for future students."

Wilkinson added that it's positive to see a rural school targeted for provincial investment funds.

Ray Danyluk, MLA for Lac La Biche-St. Paul, made a similar point.

(Continued on Page 9)

Trip winner

The Community Lions of Elk Point is really excited about the 2008 Trip of the Month Club because they sold out all of the tickets. That means they have more money to donate to schools, sports, the hospital, emergency services, and community facilities.

The first draw was made on January 25, and the winners are: all-inclusive trip to Nassau, Bahamas - Christy Lee, \$100 - Amanda Frisby and Patrick Marcoux, \$100 - Edna Tymchuk.

The next draw will be held on leap-day, February 29, at Alberta Treasury Branch in Elk Point.

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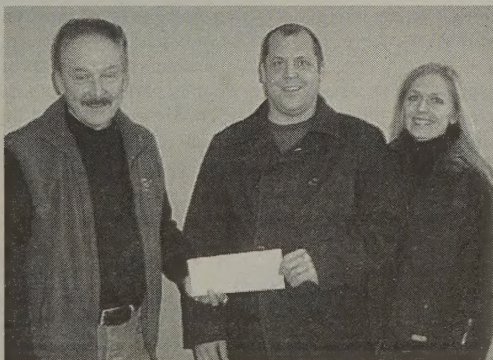
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February 16 - 17, 2008

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, February 16, 2008 - Recreation Centre
Free Admission to activities and entertainment

11:30 - 1:30 pm	Public Skating (Clancy Richard Arena)
1 - 4 pm	Lakeland Cross Country Ski Family Fun Event (St. Paul Golf Course)
4 - 6 pm	Wagon Rides
4:45 pm	Opening Ceremony
5 - 7 pm	Taste of St. Paul
7:30 - Midnight	Mannawanis Native Friendship Centre Jamboree

Sunday, February 17, 2008 - Cultural Centre

Free Admission to activities and entertainment

9:30 - 6 pm	St. Paul Trailblazers Snowmobile Rally (Lac Bellevue Hall)
11 - 3 pm	Snow Sculpture Demonstration
11 - 4 pm	Wagon Rides
11 - 1 pm	French Canadian Meal
11:30 - 1 pm	Les Blés d'Or et Galala
11:30 - 1:30 pm	Public Skating (Clancy Richard Arena)
1 - 2 pm	Outdoor activities
1 - 4 pm	Taffy on Snow
2:30 - 4 pm	Spectacle Allez Ouest

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EDITORIAL

Shadows notwithstanding

It doesn't matter a bit whether we saw our shadows on Saturday or not, there's no time for napping this February.

A provincial election call was imminent as this page went to press, which will mean some heavy-duty campaigning and decisions to be made about who to vote for.

Organizations who depend on grants for summer employees have a mountain of grant paperwork to read and fill out and return as soon as possible, if they are to get the help they need to run summer programs.

The chamber of commerce is beating the bushes for a new executive, and when that is in place, they'll be looking for 2008 members - hopefully, members who are willing to be part of decisions and projects.

The arena operating committee and Elk Point Minor Hockey will be going flat out, getting ready to host the Pee wee "D" Provincials in mid-March.

Even with the extra day, February is a short month. So much to do, so little time to fit it all in.

WAY BACK WHEN...

Luge, logo, laps make front page

HERE'S THE NEWS THAT MADE THE HEADLINES OF THE LAKELAND REVIEW AND ELK POINT REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 5 IN...

1988

Another downtown Elk Point landmark was gone, as the former Ballas Motors/Zarowny Motors/C. J. Markstad Garage that had occupied the northeast corner of the 50th Ave. and 50th St. intersection for more than 60 years, fell to the wrecker's hammers. Kelly Currey won provincial gold in the Nordic Combined competition and Dorothy Cardinal won bronze in the Ladies' Luge at the Alberta Winter Games.

1993

Town council voted to return to their familiar, pre-Bicentennial, 'Gateway to the Lakeland' logo, with the year of celebrations completed. The B & R Eckels rink, skipped by Victor Rocque, swept home to victory over Universal in the 10th annual Elk Point Oilmen's Bonspiel.

1998

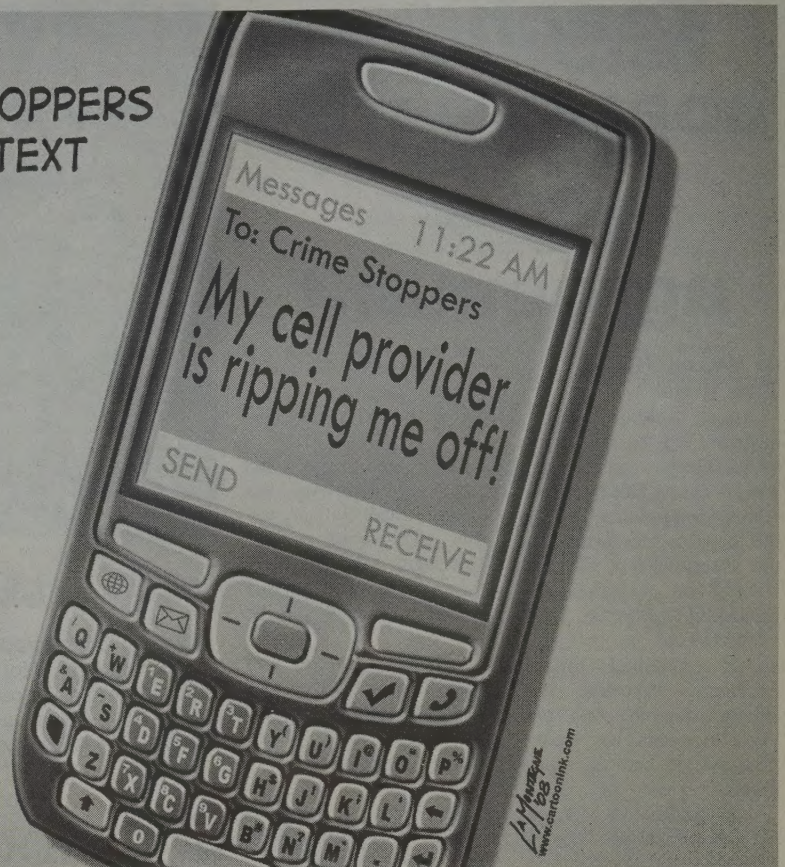
Elk Point Skating Club's Skate-a-Thon was the biggest ever, with 51 skaters completing 1,117 laps in the annual fund-raiser. The weather outside didn't stop at least part of Elk Point from becoming the banana belt, with Grade 3 teacher Wayne Hyman proudly showing off a bunch of finger-sized fruit on his classroom's banana tree, after a five-year wait since it was planted.

2003

Bill Jennissen was named Elk Point Oilmen's Association's first-ever Oilman of the Year at the 20th Annual Oilmen's Bonspiel banquet, where Murray Cochrane outlined Jennissen's 40-plus years of involvement in the industry. Dave Dwan skipped his Silverline Insulators rink to the Grand Challenge win in the spiel, with a final victory over Leonard Gadowski and his Tuboscope rink.

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

CRIME STOPPERS TO TAKE TEXT TIPS.



GUEST COLUMN

Winter Walk Day

Tomorrow, Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2008 is known as Winter Walk Day. Winter Walk Day is part of WinterActive and organized in Alberta by SHAPE (Safe Healthy Active People Everywhere). It is a great opportunity to launch an older adult walking group, revive an existing one or celebrate the ongoing success of walkers in our community. Walking anywhere, indoors or out on Feb. 6 can win your groups prizes, recognition or even media coverage! Check out this great opportunity and register for the Winter Walk Day at www.shapeab.com. Or if you want to be involved in other winter activities in our community, anytime until Feb. 29, 2008, check it out at www.winteractive.ca.



deanna
EASTHOPE
from the FCSS desk

Actually, you're all saying, "Are you crazy? With the blizzard conditions and very, very cold weather of last week, winter walking, etc., was the furthest thing from my mind."

OK, that is understandable. However, it is probably good to make plans to go for a walk outside in the winter when the weather is a little warmer. One good reason is we all need the sunshine. Besides, have you noticed how beautiful it is all around us in our environment outdoors? There is a Travel Alberta advertisement that is using several good adjectives to describe a specific location such as Banff and Lake Louise. "Alberta has some of the most beautiful landscape in the world... and it has soul." "Enhance romance in the Rockies." "It's a spirited love affair that has carried on for more than 100 years. The snow-capped mountain peaks of Banff and Lake Louise have inspired romance in generations of couples looking for an intimate escape to one of the most beautiful places on Earth."

Actually, all of this is very true. But you know what? We also have winter beauty in our area of Elk Point. When Mother Nature puts hoar frost on the trees, it really is a beautiful picture. And then when it starts to come off, some

trees seem to keep little balls of white so instead of grey branches by themselves, the branches are now covered in white fluffy leaves. Besides the trees, the snow really does make everything look beautiful.

There is a story of a man who kept a fine swarm of bees around 1929. Summer after summer, he took great pleasure in watching the little busy creatures go to fields of sweet clover and fly back to the hive to deposit their treasure and seal it over with wax that would keep it clean and wholesome and nourishing. One summer, the bees discovered a garden of poppies. Instead of flying a further distance to the fields of clover, they went to nearby poppies.

However, before they had collected the nectar they would turn into honey, they grew sleepy and returned to the hive. Upon awakening, they flew back to the abundant source of blossoms in the poppy garden, and again, they grew too sleepy to collect the nectar. The drug in the flowers produced the same effect throughout the summer, the bees seemed to have forgotten the reliable fields of clover and instead, were drawn to the more attractive poppies. Winter came, and found the bees unprepared, for their whole summer had been wasted in the soothing poppy garden.

It is easy to draw analogies based on the story of the 'poison poppies.' We can liken it to those activities that temporarily bring us pleasure as they take away from more long-lasting joys. For example, in the winter, it is easy to stay indoors and not be involved in any winter activity outside of our homes. Walking is the easiest winter activity which most of us are able to do. All we have to do is bundle up and dress in layers. We need to make sure our skin is covered to protect it from frostbite. And... even if each day we only walk for a few minutes, our bodies will appreciate it. Besides you wouldn't know all the beauty that is around us unless you go for a walk. Let your minds reflect, appreciate and be grateful.

ELK POINT REVIEW

5022 - 49 Avenue, Elk Point, AB

Mailing Address:

Box 309, Elk Point, Alberta T0A 1A0
or Box 159, St. Paul, Alberta T0A 3A0

Publisher: Clare Gauvreau

Editor: Vicki Brooker

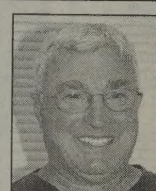
Email Address: production@stpaul.greatwest.ca



Vicki Brooker
EDITOR



Melanie McRae
SALES
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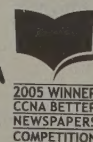
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Canada



Mike Pomerleau photo

Senior Crusaders third in Glendon

Glendon School hosted a six team senior high girls tournament this past weekend. Here the F.G Miller Crusaders player tries to wrestle the ball from the Mallaig Stingers player in round robin play. The Crusaders won third place at the tournament, defeating Vilna 51-48. Mallaig defeated the Regional JV Saints 45-22 in the fifth place while BCHS JV girls beat the Glendon Marquise in the final 43-34.



Mike Pomerleau photo

Junior Crusaders battle in Ashmont

The F.G Miller girls jr. high basketball team traveled to Ashmont this past weekend for the Ashmont Falcons Invitational. Here they try to chase down the Dr. Brosseau player out of Bonnyville in round robin play. The girls wound up losing most of their games this past week but battled hard in all their games.

Highlights of this weekend's hockey

...see Page 12

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The TD Canada Trust staff helped kick off the fundraising efforts, with manager Judy Wasylishen handing over the \$100 cheque to Brad McFarlane.

Cold snap results in gas rebate

By MALLORY HOULE
Staff Writer

Due to adverse weather conditions and drastic drops in temperature, Albertans will be receiving a \$2.50 per gigajoule (GJ) natural gas rebate for February, which should result in a \$45 saving in the month for an average household.

February marks the first time that natural gas rates exceeded \$7.50/GJ, resulting in an additional dollar per gigajoule rebate through the Natural Gas Rebate Program. Older temperatures, increased usage and declining storage levels have increased North America natural gas prices.

"When the weather gets colder, people consume

more energy just because they've got to ward off the cold," said Robert Koizumi, the manager of regulatory affairs at Alta. Gas.

Rebates occur when two of the three regulated natural gas providers charge rates above \$5.50/GJ. As the price of natural gas increases, rebate amounts grow as well. For most Alberta-based consumers, the maximum cost of natural gas is capped at \$8.75/GJ.

Most provincial residents will observe the rebate amount applied directly to their monthly gas bill. However large commercial and/or industrial consumers, agricultural producers and individuals who

heat their homes using alternate fuel sources must put in applications for the rebate. The rebate will also be doled to individuals who use propane, kerosene, heating oil, and in select cases, electricity, for fuel source purposes.

According to a press release by the Government of Alberta, the Natural Gas Rebate Program will run from October to March for most consumers, which is when Albertans use about 80 per cent of their natural gas.

For more information regarding Alberta's Natural Gas Rebate Program, visit www.energy.gov.ab.ca or contact the program office at 1-877-422-0330.

Students think pink!

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Four Elk Point youths are making a big fashion statement this February as they support the Stollery Children's Hospital's Pediatric Oncology department and the Northern Alberta Make-A-Wish.

Brad McFarlane and pals Wyatt Dewan, Dallas Anderson, and Cody White are sporting bright pink hair as they collect pledges from now until Valentine's Day, when they will take part in the St. Valentine's Day Hair Massacre 2008 at West Edmonton Mall.

The boys were inspired to take part in the fundraiser because the five-year-old

cousin of Brad's dad, Jason, is currently being treated for leukemia at the Stollery.

The first Hair Massacre was held in 2003, when the father of a four-year-old cancer victim inspired 48 co-workers to shave their heads in support of children with life-threatening illness, raising \$37,000. Six years later, over 2,000 heads have been 'massacred' and over \$1 million raised.

The young men will be canvassing family and friends for pledges. Donations can also be made online, by going to www.hair-massacre.com and following instructions to donate to the "Elk Point Boys" team.



Janina McFarlane photo

Handsome in pink as they gear up for the St. Valentine's Day Hair Massacre are (left to right) Wyatt Dewan, Brad McFarlane, Dallas Anderson, and Cody White.

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Métis traditions learned first-hand

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

Where do you go when you want to learn more about the Métis culture than you'll find in your elementary school resource material? For the Grade 5 classes at Elk Point Elementary School, the information came right from the top.

Student Cody Poitras is the grandson of Métis Nation of Alberta president Audrey Poitras, and invited his grandma to come and share her knowledge about their culture with the Grade 5s. She came to the school on Friday afternoon, bringing along Cody's grandpa, Gordon, as well as MNA Region 2 president Karen Collins and vice-president Homer Poitras, Métis local president Robert Cardinal and member Roy Dumais.

The MNA president was pleased to find that the students "already knew the definition of a Métis person," and had learned how the Métis people were descendants of both First Nations and European cultures.

Displaying the bright blue flag with the white infinity symbol, Poitras said it was first flown in 1816, and "Métis people were, even at that time, in this area." She explained that the infinity symbol signified the "coming together of two cultures, for ever and ever and ever. The people before us saw us as a cultural people."

Collins said she was glad to visit a school in Elk Point. "Homer and I go and do presentations at schools in Bonnyville, and we invite students to our office. We want to let teachers know we're out there."

Collins modeled a capote, a hooded coat made from a Hudson's Bay trade blanket, a ribbon-trimmed shirt and a woven Assomption sash, and said, "when you see people wearing things like this, you know they're Métis."

The sash is "very much attached to the Métis people," Collins said. "It was a tool used as a rope, a sling, a belt. There are different ways to wear it, and sometimes in Métis dancing, sashes are laid in a cross on the floor."

Her sash is an antique made in Oka, Quebec, and is woven from heavy thread, however many of the sashes are woven from wool, she said. The colours woven into the sash are symbolic, with "red and white repre-

senting the mixing of nations, the blue depicting the sky and the water, the green fertility and growth, and yellow, the sun."

History books showing the people of France of long ago wearing "a similar belt thing," Collins said. "Other cultures have sashes also, but they don't use them to identify their culture, but as part of their regalia."

"A lot of women wear their sash over one shoulder, fastened at the waist," Poitras said. "I have worn mine as a scarf in the winter time."

Each student received a miniature sash along with information on its part in the Métis culture.

Collins also displayed a shawl adorned with the Métis symbol she had recently received as a gift from a talented friend.

Students passed around a miniature Red River cart, as Collins talked about this "mode of transportation for the Métis. They were made with no nails. They were all wood. The Métis were a very migrant people, and as they traveled a long way, the wood squeaked. They could be heard coming for miles." The carts were originally pulled by oxen, and later by horses.

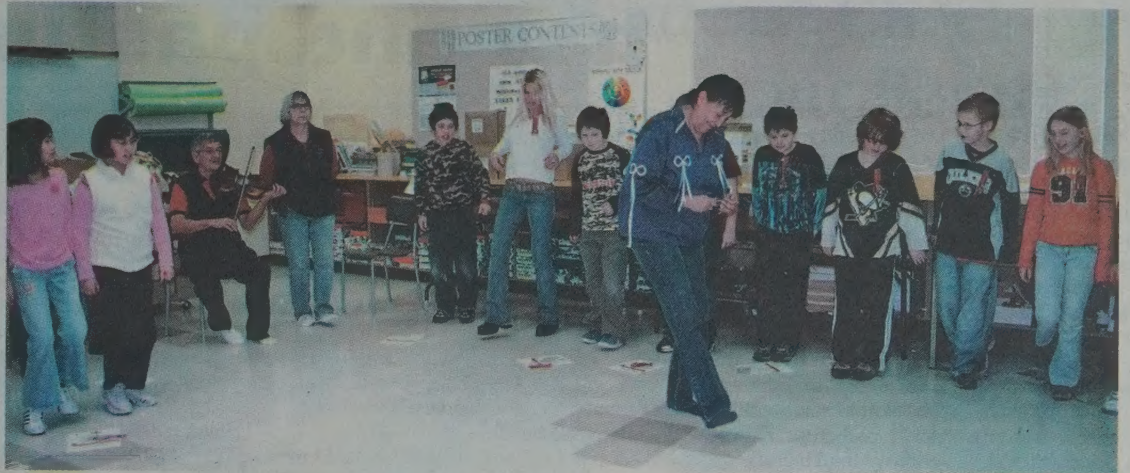
Poitras noted that in 1812, six Red River carts were taken westward on the survey for the railway, and in 1874, a 114-cart caravan accompanied the Royal North West Mounted Police on their journey west.

A Red River cart displayed at Métis Crossing interpretive centre, south of Smoky Lake, was made by Roy Scott of Heinsburg, as was one that sits on the front lawn of the MNA headquarters in Edmonton, Poitras said. "He also came with one of his carts and his horse and took us in a parade in Edmonton."

Champion fiddler Homer Poitras learned to play when he was 12. "I got the fiddle for Christmas, and learned from my uncle. I played at the New Year's dance."

Collins displayed a pair of spoons, and demonstrated how she could keep time to the fiddle music with them. "I saw someone playing the spoons, and asked them how to do it. I grew up all my life around fiddles and these tunes, and that makes it easy to follow."

Dumais added guitar accompaniment to the lively fiddle tunes. Everyone joined in a lively Red River Jig, which Homer Poitras



Vicki Brooker photo

Grade 5 students at Elk Point Elementary School gained first-hand knowledge of Métis traditions on Friday, when they followed the lead of Métis Nation of Alberta president Audrey Poitras (fourth from left) and MNA District 2 president Karen Collins as they danced the Red River Jig to the music of Homer Poitras' fiddle.

called "Métis aerobics. My daughter Tracy had a program at Northlands last summer, and there were 5,000 kids at the AgriCom. My son Corbin showed them how to dance the Red River Jig."

"The aboriginal people are encouraging their children to get educated and to do the best they can," Audrey Poitras told the students, noting that many of the older generation didn't have the opportunity to go to school.

The Alberta Aboriginal Youth achievement awards are presented at a conference that also includes displays and career information. "The more you know about careers, the easier it is

to decide," Poitras noted. Young people can be nominated for the awards, which provide scholarship funds to help them continue their education, as well as recognition for their achievements to date. Each year, youth attending the event receive a special souvenir, Poitras said. This year's is a toque with a crest combining a teepee, a Métis symbol and an inukshuk, and she brought along one for each student, along with pens from the president's office.

Poitras said she had enjoyed her visit to the school, and hoped to come back and visit the students in her old hometown in the future.



Students examine traditional Métis ribbon shirts.



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Beef producers warned to protect hay and pasture

It's no secret Alberta cattle producers are struggling. Rising feed costs and low cattle prices are forcing beef producers in the St. Paul area and across the province to make difficult decisions on how to manage their operations. As they grapple with cutting costs and surviving the months ahead, Provincial Forage Industry Specialist Gordon Hutton offers a word of caution.

Potential Decline in Forage Acres

"There is the potential for a sharp decline in hay and pasture acres across Alberta this year," he says. With the dramatic price increases in oilseed and cereal crops, many producers will be seriously thinking about seeding forage land back to grain this

spring, explains Hutton. The price of barley jumped more than 50% in 2007 and canola has climbed to about \$13/bu compared to about \$8/bu last February. Both have been driven up by the effects of the ethanol and biodiesel industries.

Those price dynamics could spark a considerable shift, potentially causing many forage producers and mixed farmers to convert hay and pasture acres to grain, says Hutton, who speaks with producers province-wide, giving advice over the Ag-INFO phone hotline, operated by Alberta Agriculture and Food.

"It's a trend the beef industry should be preparing for because cattle producers have

relied on many of these acres as surplus hay and pasture, particularly in years of drought when local forage supplies were low," he says.

They need to put more focus on protecting their own hay and pasture, stresses Hutton. "It's their most affordable feed source. If there happens to be a drought in their area or some other collapse in their forage crops, and they have to buy feed elsewhere, it could be more expensive than they think - and harder to find."

Perennial Insurance

Hutton advises beef producers to look at two key strategies to protect their forage supplies: hay and pasture management - such as fertilizing and seeding new hay stands to boost yields - and perennial insurance for hay and pasture.

But with fertilizer, fuel and other input costs so high, he suspects many producers will decide they can't afford to fertilize or re-seed forage land, leaving older stands that produce less and are more prone to drought. "It increases their risk, making perennial insurance even more important."

February 29 Deadline

Many beef producers have never bothered with hay and pasture insurance because they could always buy surplus forage if they had a shortfall. But with the potential for a significant drop in forage acres, producers may want to crunch the numbers and decide whether insurance makes sense for their operation, says Hutton.

"If producers add up what they spend to truck in hay whenever their forage yields are down and compare that to the cost of insurance versus the dollar coverage it buys, they may find insurance is the cheaper way to go," he adds.

They have until Feb. 29 to make that decision. That's the deadline to buy hay and pasture insurance in Alberta, says Christine Sweet, a Perennial Insurance Senior Project Manager with Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC), the provincial Crown Corporation that administers crop insurance in Alberta.

As an example of the cost to insure hay and pasture compared to the coverage it offers, a producer in Northern Alberta with 300 acres of improved pasture might pay \$300 in premium for approximately \$4,000 in coverage, says Sweet. For legume hay,

the coverage could be almost \$19,000 for \$2,700 in premium.

Can't Afford Disaster

Ross Cossey has done the math and says he plans to insure his 375 acres of hay. He downsized his beef herd to 52 head two years ago and may seed some pasture back into grain to help offset rising costs. But despite his cost-cutting efforts, Cossey says he wouldn't go even one year without insurance because he can't afford a disaster.

"I'm always worried about a lack of rain. If there is a drought and I have to buy 400 bales of hay to feed my cattle, that can add up quickly. And I still have to pay all my other bills," says Cossey, who farms in the Tofield area. He says hay insurance saved his farm from a total wreck during the 2002 drought.

Risk of Drought

Impending drought is always a risk and it's impossible to predict when and where it might strike, says Hutton. Last year, despite a wet spring with near normal spring soil moisture in some areas, a scorching July heat left several producers with drought conditions and poor forage yields in the northeast and southern regions of Alberta, as well as in large pockets of the Peace Region.

"While the number of perennial insurance claims were down, the total dollar losses - caused by both drought and hail - were significant," says Sweet. She explains hay insurance is based on an individual's production levels, while pasture insurance is area-based, relying on satellite imagery data or moisture readings at weather stations to determine when claims are triggered.

"We added 35 new weather stations this year, for a total of 172," says Sweet. "We've also recently added Spot Loss - Fire Coverage for protection against accidental fire and fire caused by lightning." She says producers looking for more information on perennial insurance should contact their local AFSC office or phone the AFSC call centre at 1-888-786-7475 before the Feb. 29 deadline.

"Perennial forage insurance is an important risk management tool. With grain prices so high and forage supplies uncertain, it's especially important for beef producers to take the time to properly evaluate it this year," says Hutton.

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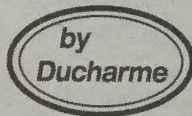
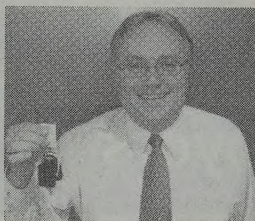
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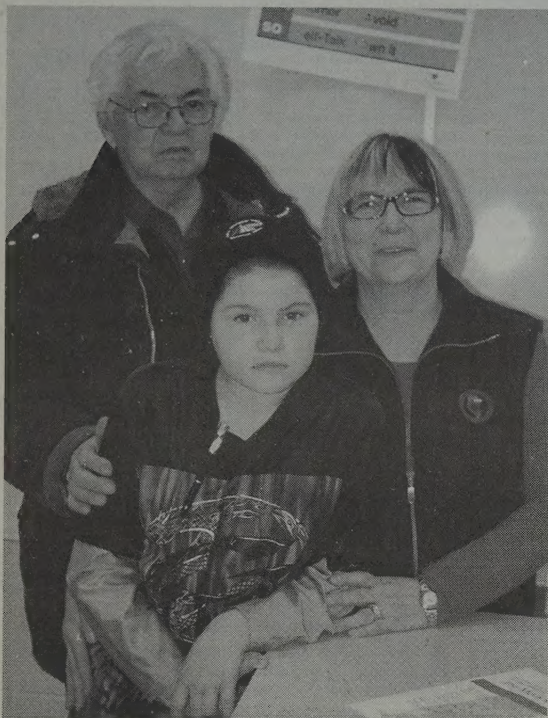
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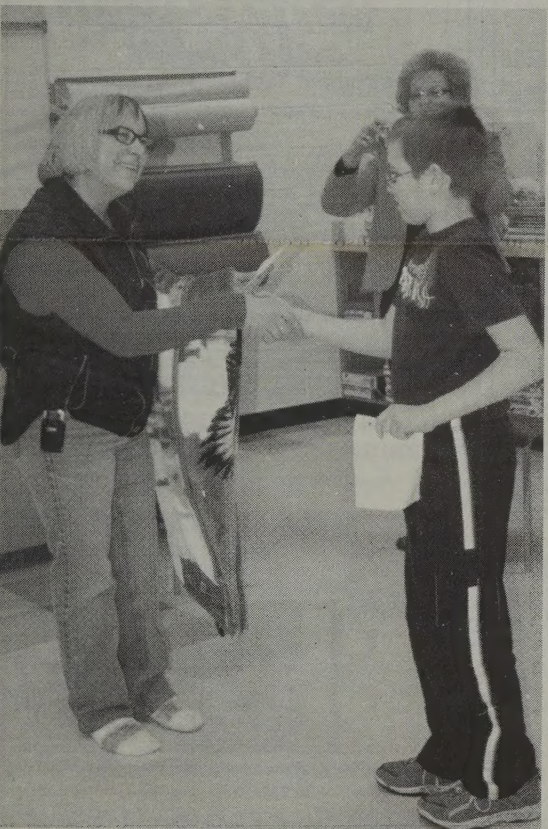
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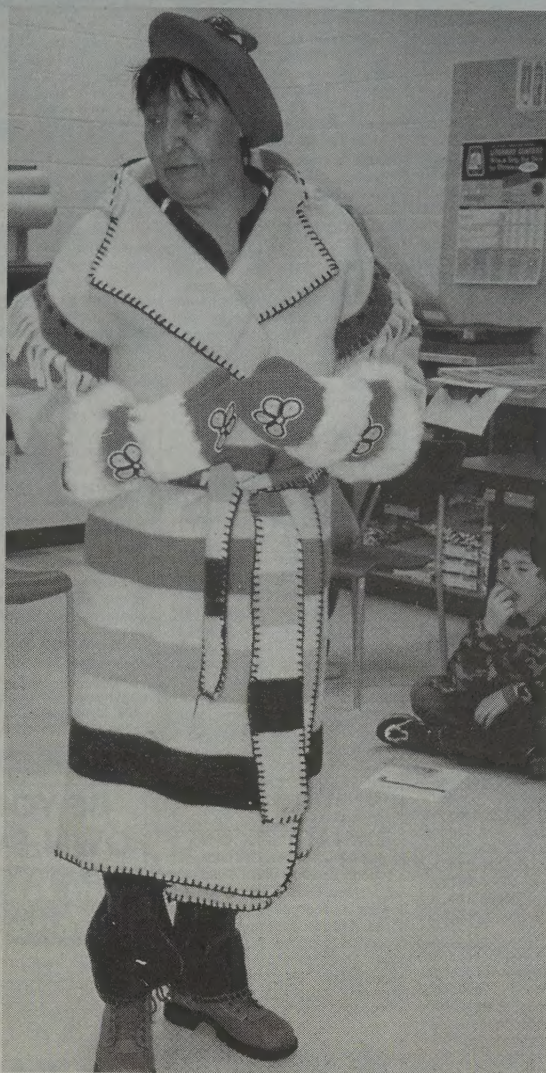
Métis visitors welcomed



Proud grandparents Audrey and Gordon Poitras were happy to visit Elk Point Elementary School at the invitation of their grandson Cody, who is shown wearing one of the souvenir toques with a logo bearing a teepee, Métis symbol and inukshuk.



Métis Nation of Alberta president Audrey Poitras accepted a gift of appreciation from Jackson Kjenner on behalf of the Grade 5 classes who enjoyed her visit last Friday.



Dressed in true Métis winter fashion, Métis Nation of Alberta District 2 president Karen Collins wears a traditional hat, hand-stitched Hudson's Bay blanket capote and elaborately beaded, fur-trimmed mittens from Assomption.



CARD OF THANKS

McALEESE, Kathleen

The family of the late Kathleen McAleese would like to express our sincere gratitude to the devoted and compassionate staff at Parkview Extended Care. Our thanks also to Dr. Ramful.

Many thanks to all relatives and friends for your expressions of sympathy, cards and flowers and great conversations remembering Kathleen. Lunch provided by the ladies from the Seniors Recreation Centre was appreciated.

John Yewchin and Staff were invaluable with their guidance and compassion. Not only was their assistance comforting, but also very professional.

A very heartfelt thanks to Reverend Joep Langejans for helping us express in such a special way the celebration of Kathleen's life.

OBITUARY

CRITES, Sophia



On January 27, 2008, Mrs. Sophia Crites of Elk Point, formerly of Hudson Hope, B.C., passed away suddenly at the age of 72 years.

She will be lovingly remembered by her children, Gail Havener (Dave Pilsko), Craig (Maria) Crites & Randy (Darlene) Crites; her grandchildren, Tim Havener (Nathalie), Nichole Havener (Tino), Brittney Crites & Harley Meidal; great-grandchildren, Dakota & Colby Havener; siblings, Nick (Elsie) Marusiak, Anne Zaveruka, Tillie Nescar, Nellie Marusiak, Marie (Ross) Elliott & Dan (Gail) Marusiak; also numerous nieces & nephews. She was predeceased by 1 son, Timothy Crites; brothers, Raymond & Andy Marusiak; brothers-in-law, Mike Zaveruka & Sandy Nescar; sister-in-law, Irene Marusiak; son-in-law, Chris Havener; father of her children, Carl Crites & parents, Mike & Mary Marusiak. Sophia was born on a farm in Rycroft and the family eventually moved to Dunvegan. She lived most of her life in the Peace River country & raised her family in Hudson Hope, B.C. before retiring to Elk Point in 1995.

A Service of Remembrance was held Thursday, January 31 at 7:00 p.m. at Yewchin's Funeral Chapel, St. Paul and Cremation followed. A Memorial Service will be held in Hudson Hope, B.C. in the spring of 2008. An announcement will be made at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Canadian Diabetes Association c/o Box 425, St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0.

Yewchin's Funeral Chapel Ltd. St. Paul. 1-780-645-5177.

Need gardening ideas? Check out your library

Are all those seed catalogues making your fingers itch to get digging in the dirt? Obviously, it's too snowy to do anything outdoors yet, but it's prime time to plan your 2008 garden.

If you need ideas about what to buy, how to arrange it and what will grow best in this area, check out your local library. Garden books galore, along with the latest gardening magazines, will give you new insight to grow with, before you write out that order for seeds, perennials and shrubs.

Many of these books feature diagrams outlining just

what you need to get a specific look for your yard. There are also a number of volumes on landscape design and outdoor projects you can build.

Drop in, browse through the collection, take out the latest magazines and get ready to exercise your green thumb!

Just a reminder that next Tuesday, Feb. 12, is the monthly Seniors Tea, beginning at 2 p.m. at the library. Hope you can join us for goodies and good conversation.

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OBITUARY

VALENTINE, Meryl Olive (nee Smith)

Oct. 21, 1914-Jan. 30, 2008



It is with great sadness the family announces the passing of Mrs. Meryl Valentine of Elk Point, AB, formerly of Duncan, BC, (from 1974-2002).

She is survived by her two daughters Marvia (Hans) Hickli of Chilliwack, BC, Myrna (Orest) Fedorus of Elk Point, AB and son Donald (Marlane) Valentine of Claresholm, AB; six grandchildren, John (Terrie Lynn) Soldan, Margaret (Brent) Mudryk, Laura (Garth) Cline, Anna (Dale) Silver, Dale Valentine and Paige Valentine; five great-grandchildren, Brandon and Karlene Mudryk, Ava Cline, Grace and Nicholas Silver; two step-great-grandchildren, NESTA (Brian) Haydey and Michael Hoffart; three sisters, Lois Wilson of West Vancouver, BC, Avis Bateman of Penticton, BC, Phyllis Zarowny of Elk Point, AB; Canadian cousins Ruth Brown (VanArnam) of Victoria, BC and Bud (Alice) VanArnam of Carstairs, AB; nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends from far and wide. Meryl was predeceased by her husband, Buster (David Lawrence) Valentine of 67 years, her parents Lester and Grace Smith, brother George Smith and sister Marymae Stanley.

She was a kind, gentle person who will be remembered for her lovely quiet sense of humour, her integrity, and her photography hobby of family and friends.

There will be no service by request. A family gathering will follow at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to Parkview Extended Care, Elk Point, AB or charity of choice c/o Box 425, St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0.

The family would like to express their gratitude and thanks to the staff at Heritage Lodge, Parkview Extended Care and Dr. Ramful.

"My life's been full, I savoured much, Good friends; Good times, a loved one's touch."

Good Bye Mom, We love you. Yewchin's Funeral Chapel Ltd. St. Paul. 1-780-645-5177.

School funding

(Continued from Page 3)

"This is a significant investment not only in Vilna School, but the school community as well," Danyluk said. "Rural schools are an important component of this province's education landscape."

Last August, the province announced it would allocate \$197 million to support 26 major modernization projects throughout Alberta. These funds brought the government's overall investment in new school infrastructure, in

addition to modernization and maintenance, to about \$610 million for the 2007/2008 fiscal year.



ELITE THEATRE

24 Hr. Info Line 645-3448

or Toll Free 1-866-245-3448

Visit us at: www.magiclanterntheatres.ca

CHURCH SERVICES

Elk Point Baptist Church

5705 - 49 St., Elk Point

Pastor Jim MacLellan

Pastor Jason Goulet

Family Worship Service

Sundays - 10 a.m.

Sunday School - 11:15 a.m.

Call 724-4194 for more information

or see our Website:

geocities.com/elkptbapt

St. Vladimirs' Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Elk Point

For service times, call 645-5156,

St. Paul or 724-4175, Elk Point.

United Church of Canada

4822 - 50 Ave., Elk Point

724-3616

Services - Sunday 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

"Come and be Welcomed -

Come and Be Nurtured"

Christian Community Church of Elk Point

53 St. and Railway Avenue

Phone 724-4039 or 724-2648

Our Aim:

"To Know, Apply and Share the

Power of Christ"

Worship Service - Sunday 10 a.m.

Sunday School - 10 a.m.

Pastor Bill Kryzanowski

(780) 635-4064

St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church

Father Ambrose

Sunday Mass

11:30 a.m.

Mass 1st Tuesday of the month at

Parkview Extended Care, 4 p.m.

Mass and Holy Hour

1st Friday of the month at 7 p.m.

Bethel Lutheran Church of Lea Park

Weekly Services, 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion 2nd and 3rd

Sundays

Bible Fellowship Church Clondonald

Services held every

Sunday at 11 a.m.

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200. Business/Invest. Oppor.

CURVES FOR SALE. Located on main street in Bonnyville. Fantastic Opportunity. Well established fitness club. Bldg also available. Call (780) 826-3810 or 1-888-527-4699.

FLOWERSHOP. Greenhouse, Garden Center in East Central Alberta. Well established 24 years. Large trading area, owner retiring, good family operation. Phone 403-578-3340. Fax 403-578-2240. Email: chrispm@telusplanet.net.

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300. Lost & Found



LOST DOG

2-year-old male (neutered) Yellow Labrador Retriever. Name: Cash. Wearing a Green 'Remington' Collar. Runs with right leg limp. Lost January 12, 2008 - 4 miles west of Ardmore (RR 443). Reward offered.

815-5240

207-5062

Family Pet and
Dearly Missed.

410. Education/Training

MARITIME DRILLING Schools entry-level training for land and offshore oilrigs. Excellent wages, benefits and opportunities to travel the world. March 3 - 22/08; March 31 - April 19/08. Contact 1-866-907-3960; www.mdsilmit-ed.ca.

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ATTENTION: Agricultural Journeyman Parts and Service Technicians. Did you know the John Deere Industrial Equipment dealers pay up to 30% more in hourly wages? Why not join the Brandt Tractor team at one of our 5 locations in Alberta or 21 locations across Western Canada. We are also seeking resident technicians in Drayton Valley, Lac La Biche, Wainwright, Camrose, Vegreville, Cold Lake, Bonnyville and Waskiwin. Brandt has been recognized as one of Canada's top 50 Managed Companies for the past 3 years. If you want a great career with a rapidly growing and dynamic company, send your resume to: Brandt Tractor Ltd. Attention: Greg Davidson, 10630 - 176 St., Edmonton, AB, T5S 1M2. Fax 780-489-6891; cackland@brandttractor.com.

AUTO SALESPERSON. Sunshine Honda, Vernon, BC has an immediate opening for an experienced salesperson. Above average pay plan, benefits, and you get to live in the Okanagan; donderowin@sunshinehonda.bc.ca.

BEHR ENERGY SERVICES is a Calgary based Oilfield Engineering firm. We are searching for experienced wellsite supervisors for drilling and completion operations. Applicants may be required to manage sour operations, deep directional or horizontal wells (gas and oil) as well as disposal wells and abandonment's. Please forward your resume to: info@beherenergy.com.

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ENSGN ENERGY SERVICES Inc. is looking for experienced Drilling Rig, Well Servicing and Coring personnel for all position levels. Drillers, Operators, Coring Drillers \$29.70 - \$39.25; Derrickhands \$26.30 - \$32.50; Motorhands \$27.50; Floorhands, Well Servicing Floorhands, Core Hands, Helpers \$21.00 - \$24.50. Ensign Recruitment Center, 2001 - 4 Street, Nisku, AB, T9E 7W6. Telephone 1-888-ENSGN-0. Fax 780-955-6160. Email: hr@ensgenergy.com.

EXPERIENCED WATER hauler required. A rate work. Modern equipment. Competitive wages. Must have Class 3 and oilfield tickets. Central Alberta. 403-845-4331, Brent.

FULL-TIME DISPATCHER. Ready Mix Co., Sechelt, BC. Individual experienced in concrete industry. Cover letter and resume to: Box 172, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0. Fax 604-885-2226; srmdispatch@uniserve.com.

GROCERY MANAGER. The Marketplace at Brooks, located in Brooks, Alberta requires a Grocery Manager for a department with a volume of \$3.5 million in annual sales. The successful candidate should have prior retail management experience, demonstrated strong leadership, communication, interpersonal, planning and organizational skills. Fax resume to: Human Resources, Federated Co-operatives Limited, Box 2599, Calgary, AB, T2P 4P2. Fax 403-531-2275. Email: r.gaezt@fcl.ca.

NORTHERN SUNRISE County is seeking a Utilities Operator with Alberta Level III Water Treatment certification. Visit website: www.northern.sunrise.net for a detailed job posting. Resumes may be forwarded to: Jim Schneider, Transportation & Utilities Coordinator, Northern Sunrise County, Bag 1300, Peace River, AB, T8S 1Y9; jschneider@northern.sunrise.net.

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HIGH LEVEL SUPER A is currently recruiting a full-time Meat Cutter. High Level is located in northern Alberta and has a trading area of 9000 people. It is a great place to live if you enjoy indoor and outdoor activities such as: golfing, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, curling, and cross country skiing. As a Meat Cutter you will report directly to the Meat Manager. You will be trained on meat cutting and sanitation standards. You must be able to provide a "clear" Security Clearance and provide proof of Grade 12 completion. Previous meat cutting experience is an asset. If you have the skills and abilities to meet our expectations, forward your resume in confidence to: Store Manager, High Level Super A, 10300 - 103 Ave., High Level, AB, T0H 1Z0. Fax 780-926-4620. Email: tyronne.parislaui@tgp.ca. We thank all candidates for their interest; however only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

JOURNALISTS, Graphic Artists, Marketing and more. Alberta's weekly newspapers are looking for people like you. Post your resume online. Free. Visit: www.avnwa.com/resumes_add.

LOOKING FOR TWO Autobody Journeyman and one Refinisher. Offering \$26/hour straight time negotiable. Moving bonus possible. Contact Paul or Pat at J.D. Collision 780-826-2416.

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THE CITY of Wetaskiwin is looking for experienced and qualified people for positions of Foreman, Equipment Operator, Pipelayer, Tophand and Labourer. These positions will be paid as per the City of Wetaskiwin pay schedule and benefit package. Work schedule to be 60 hours per week (Monday to Friday). All interested parties should send a resume to: City of Wetaskiwin, P.O. 6210, Wetaskiwin, AB, T9A 2E9. Attention: Richard Wheatley, C.E.T., Assistant Public Works Superintendent. Telephone 780-361-4434. Fax 780-352-0101. Email: rwheatley@wetaskiwin.ca.

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Please send resume to Bonnyville Nouvelle Attn.: Nora Chachula 5304 - 50 Ave Bonnyville, AB T9N 1Y4 nchachula@bonnyville.greatwest.ca

Only suitable candidates will be contacted.

Phone: 780-826-3876 Fax: 780-826-7062

Aspen Regional Health Authority ELK POINT HEALTHCARE CENTRE REGISTERED NURSE

The Elk Point Healthcare Centre is currently recruiting for a **Permanent 0.76 Part-Time Registered Nurse** to work in the **Long Term Care Department**.

Forward resume by **February 15, 2008** to: **Marguerite Friesen, Head Nurse LTC** Elk Point Healthcare Centre Bag #3, Elk Point, AB, T0A 1A0 Fax: 780-724-3085 Email: marguerite.friesen@aspenrha.ab.ca

Note: All new offers of employment are subject to a Criminal Records Check satisfactory to the employer. This information is collected by the authority of the Protection of Persons in Care Act (Section 5.3).

Aspen Regional Health Authority ELK POINT HEALTHCARE CENTRE FULL-TIME REGISTERED NURSE

The Elk Point Healthcare Centre is currently recruiting for a **Permanent Full-Time Registered Nurse** to work in the **Acute Care / Emergency Department**. Shifts are all 12 hour shifts, 7 am - 7:15 pm and 7 pm - 7:15 am.

Forward resume by **February 15, 2008** to: **Pam Ballas, Head Nurse Acute Care** Elk Point Healthcare Centre Bag #3, Elk Point, AB, T0A 1A0 Fax: 780-724-3085 Email: pam.ballas@aspenrha.ab.ca

Note: All new offers of employment are subject to a Criminal Records Check satisfactory to the employer. This information is collected by the authority of the Protection of Persons in Care Act (Section 5.3).

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2900. Misc. Services

"MONEY PROBLEMS" Real Solutions to Real Problems. Proposals, Debt Counseling. 1-888-488-8333. Jim Moses, (will meet with you in town - Trustee in Bankruptcy).

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BE YOUR OWN BOSS. Learn to be an auctioneer. Next course March 3 - 14 at Westlock. Western Canadian School of Auctioneering, Westlock, Alberta. 1-888-954-3891; www.wolfauctions.com.

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UNRESERVED AUCTION Sale. Feb. 13/08, 10 a.m. Celanese Plant Site Edmonton. Industrial, emergency and safety equipment. www.CenturyServices.com. 780-944-9144.

3210. Misc. For Sale

42" LCD TVs Dell \$1199. no money down. Also PCs and laptops. 6, 9 and 24 month payment plans. Credit builder *(must earn \$1500. + employed). 1-877-226-0660; www.national-computersdirect.com.

AFFORDABLE PHONE Reconnection. Bad credit - no problem! Call Tembo Telecom and ask about our new customer special. Sign up online and save \$20. 1-877-266-6398; www.tembo.ca.

BED, QUEEN, orthopedic Pillow-top mattress/box-spring. New, still in plastic. Full warranty. Cost \$1100. sell \$375. KING size, extra-thick, cost \$1550.; sell \$650. Will deliver. 403-371-1400.

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BUILDINGS FOR SALE! "Rock Bottom Prices!" 25 X 30 now \$5,800. 25 X 40 \$6,900. 30 X 40 \$8,300. 35 X 50 \$11,290. 35 X 70 \$14,500. 40 X 80 \$16,900. Others. Canadian manufacturer since 1980. Pioneer Steel 1-800-668-5422.

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HOT TUB 2007. New still in plastic wrap. Ozonator, full warranty. Cost \$8,500. sacrifice for \$4,200. Call 780-265-2426.

HOT TUB/SPA 2007 - All options, with cover, 2007 model with full warranty, Brand new, still in wrapper. Cost \$8,900. Sacrifice \$3,800. Call 403-663-9767.

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MEMORY FOAM Orthopedic mattresses. NASA technology. Buy direct from our warehouse and save \$\$\$ Queen \$499. (all sizes available). Call Health Rest today. 1-888-420-7378 (Edmonton).

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NO MONEY DOWN! Dell computers! LCD TVs. *Credit builder. Almost everyone approved. Quick delivery. No deposit ever! *(Must earn \$1500.+ employed). Order now. 1-877-226-0660; www.nationalcomputersdirect.com.

POOL TABLE 1" 3 piece slate, 8 ft. Professional Series. Solid wood with all accessories. Brand New, still boxed. Cost \$6800. Sell \$1950. 403-266-0979.

POOL TABLE 1" slate, never used, with all accessories. Cost \$6500. Sacrifice for \$1790. Call 780-265-2426.

1005. Help Wanted**3210. Misc. For Sale**

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FOR SALE REGISTERED PURE bred Black Angus bulls, seamen tested & delivery included. 780-645-2500 leave a message.

WE'VE GOT YOUR GOAT! Visit Alberta Goat Breeders Association at www.albertagoatbreeders.ca for information on goats and goat products, management, where to buy, and more!

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OATS WANTED

ON FARM PICKUP

Immediate Payment.

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5003. Real Estate Misc.

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5110. Houses For Rent

FOR RENT 4 bedroom house in Glendon. \$1200.00 per month. Available March 1. Call 780-635-4093

5130. Apartments For Rent

RENTALS

Large 2 Bedroom Suites Available

Call Lilian at 724-4138

Mayfield Management Group Ltd.

RENTALS

EXECUTIVE FURNISHED SUITES

Available Daily, Weekly or Monthly

ALSO

FAMILY 1, 2 & 3 BEDROOMS AVAILABLE

Call Doug or Pat 724-4779

Mayfield Management Group Ltd.

5165. Condos For Sale

102 CONDOMINIUM Development to be built in Lamont. Presentation at Dow Centennial Centre (Hwy. 16) in Fort Saskatchewan on February 11 and 12 from 3 - 8 p.m. Full project information will be available.

5200. Acreages For Sale

36 PROPERTIES, 80 - 800 acres. View, lakes, trees, river, pasture, amenities. Ten minutes south of Williams Lake, BC. \$113,000+. Phone 250-706-9555. Email: mryan@bcinternet.net. Website: missiononward.ca.

5300. Land For Sale

FOR SALE: (2) 5 acres; fully treed. (2) 10 acres (1 fully treed). 7 miles NW from Bonnyville. Phone 826-1596.

5400. Farms For Sale

REAL ESTATE For Sale By Unreserved Auction. Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers 1-800-491-4494. Hwy 63 Newbrook - 1 Home Quarter, 2 Acreages and 22 Parcels of Farmland. Lac La Biche - 160 +/- acres Owl River frontage, 1639 +/- acres Grazing Lease. Sale Date: April 4. Camrose/Leeduc - 1 Home/Quarter, 2 Acreages and 5 Parcels of Farmland. Sale Date: April 12. Realtor: Greg Cripps - Remax Central AB - 403-347-7103. rbauction.com.

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UNRESERVED AUCTION. 7 quarters of prime farmland near Halkirk, Alberta, plus well established acreage, grain storage and full line of farm equipment. For more information call Hodgins Auctioneers, 1-800-667-2075. PL 180827.

5800. Manuf. Homes - Sale

20' WIDES on sale now! 3 and 4 bedroom clearance. Many floorplans to choose from including home theatre rooms. Best Buy Homes, 1-877-396-5564.

2007, 1520 SQ. FT. manufactured home. Never lived in. 2 X 6 construction, Lowe windows, 6 appliances, many upgrades, on 1/2 acre lot. Phone 780-898-4467.

2008 SRI HOMES available, low pricing and immediate delivery available on limited production. Call Ken or Ed at Economy Homes and Cottages, 1-800-689-6953; www.econocottages.com.

CROSS COUNTRY MODULAR HOMES. Bring us your plan. We have production available for spring. Also stock at reduced prices. Call us at 780-470-8000 or 1-800-470-5444.

NEW AND USED 16', 20' and doublewide SRI homes for immediate delivery or as required to build. Competitive province wide pricing. United Homes Canada 1-800-461-7632.

ONE ONLY. Immediate delivery. 1632 square foot basement Modular. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms. Includes fridge, stove, dishwasher, furnace and water heater. Just \$178,870. Call 1-877-887-2254.

PREFAB HOMES Discounted 50%+! Green-R-Panel Building Systems Sub-Prime Mortgage Disaster Order Cancellations. 1260SF pre-engineered package originally \$29,950. Blowout \$14,975. Other sizes - Sacrifice prices! Since 1980/BBB. 1-800-871-7089. Spring delivery available!

5130. Apartments For Rent**5800. Manuf. Homes - Sale**

WINALTA HOMES - Building Communities. Now selling - Jutland Ridge in Stony Plain - Light-house Pointe in Sylvan Lake - Jubilee Landing in Sherwood Park. Home and lot starting at \$262,900. Winalta Homes 1-866-960-2112.

WINALTA HOMES Factory Direct Pricing on all in-stock show-homes. Immediate delivery on a great selection of modular and manufactured homes. Hurry in now! Winalta Homes 1-866-960-2112.

YOU DESERVE a new home now! We have 16' and 20' wide homes available for immediate delivery. Nicely appointed show-homes at last years prices. Drop in and see for yourself. Pleasant Homes Ltd., Morinville, Alberta. 1-866-962-0238.

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DREAMCATCHER FINANCING. Buckle up today! You work, you drive! "0" down. O.A.C. Free delivery to BC and Alberta. Apply online www.dreamcatcher-loans.com. 24/7. 1-800-910-6402.

GUARANTEED APPROVAL drive away today! We lend money to everyone. Fast approvals best interest rates, over 800 vehicles sale priced for immediate delivery; www.autoapprovedcanada.ca. 1-800-523-2798.

NEED A CAR or truck? Good credit, bad credit. Want a Visa? #1 success rate. Delivery in BC and Alberta; www.drivemoneyow.com or 1-888-501-1148.

6475. Snowmobiles

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Green plan

(Continued from Page 2)

Woynilowicz also criticized the lack of short-term targets set in the parameters of the plan.

"Setting a shorter-term target would actually see emissions begin to stabilize and go down earlier than 2020," he said. "Premier Stelmach seems to be avoiding an approach that would hold him and his government accountable for future results."

Ray Danyluk, the MLA for St. Paul and Lac La Biche responded to criticisms leveled at the green plan.

"The premier has very much stepped forward," Danyluk said. "We've discussed a lot of balance for the environment."

He said that the safe-keeping of the environment will be a criteria for future development, such as further oil sands activity.

Danyluk explained that the plan focuses on a cumulative effect and will see "short-term situations assist in reaching long term goals."

The government is looking at solutions to the problems instead of focusing on Alberta's current environmental state, said Danyluk.

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Atoms host tourney

Where the heck is that global warming they have been warning us about? Sure didn't feel like it last week! I guess it really isn't anything to joke about, but it wasn't very funny walking the dog either, and of course she still wanted to go out around town every morning and evening, even if I wanted to or not!

Coach Brent Becker must of spiked his water jugs with something on Thursday night because that's the most aggressive I have ever seen the Bantam Girls Storm play all year, and it paid off right away against the visiting team from Viking. The Storm took an early two-goal lead, on goals by Mariah Poitras and Kelsey "the Champ" Vinge, assisted by Raven Quinney and Kaitlyn Roberts. Raven and Kaitlyn along with Paige Huxley and Taylor Jenner all played a very strong game just missing on a few scoring chances of their own. The Storm held on to a two-goal lead into the third period before they started to power out. It takes a full 60 minutes to win a hockey game and the Storm, because they have such a short bench, need a little more conditioning to make it all the way through the full 60. Viking, putting on the pressure, tied the game

in the third at two-all. Then in the last minute Tori "T-Rex" Becker breaking away from the pack, came in all alone and could have salted



**doug
BASSETT**
Review Sports

this one away, but the Viking goalie stoned her. Down at the other end, Robyn "the Brick Maennchen" came up with some big saves in the dying seconds and the game remained tied after sixty minutes.

Saturday night the Storm played another strong game when they traveled to Lac La Biche, losing this one 4 to 3. Mariah Poitras scoring another one, Lindsay "Goldilocks" MacDonald blasting one in from the point and Katie Maennchen also scoring in this one, Alyssa Harms, Chelsea Botting and "the Champ" all getting helpers. Coach Becker pulling out his goalie in the last minute, sending out six attackers but still couldn't tie this one.

Back at home on Saturday and Sunday the Atom Avalanche hosted one dandy of a six-team tourna-

ment. It takes a lot of work to pull this off and all the parents and coaching staff should be proud of the job they did and deserve a big pat on the back, and so do the Avalanche players who did so well. The Avalanche lost the first one against Pierceland 3 to 2 in overtime. Only two weeks ago Pierceland blanked the Atom Avalanche 9 to nothing, so I think it's fair to say it's quite an improvement.

Brodin Ference finding the twine twice in this one, Brandon Garrett with a goal and an assist, Colin "Naz Jr." Nazarchuk adding a helper as well.

In their second game on Saturday night, the Avalanche really taking it to Vegreville winning this one 8 to zip. The big "Naz Jr." with four goals, a hat trick for Han Lo Pittlejon and Madison Ference also getting in on the action and burying one. Brodin Ference, Jewel Poitras and Vikram Sidhu getting assists and sending the Avalanche to the B final against Bonnyville Sunday at noon.

Brodin Ference put the Avs on the scoreboard just over three minutes into the game, but Bonnyville was quick to tie the score. "Naz Jr." scored his first of three and Brodin Ference his sec-



Elk Point Atom Avalanche hosted a very successful six-team tournament this weekend, and thrilled the crowd with their exciting hockey action.

ond of the period in rapid succession at mid-period, taking a 3-1 lead, however Bonnyville tied things up later in the period, Avs goalie Mathew Mahoney averting a fourth Bonnyville marker just before the buzzer. The teams remained tied for the next 15 minutes, until "Naz Jr." hit the mark with 5:10 on the clock. Bonnyville was quick to reply, and added another with seven seconds remaining. "Naz Jr." tied it up again early in the third, but Bonnyville added two more to win the "B" trophy.

Mallaig posted a 9-2 win over Vegreville to win the "C" final, while Mundare edged Pierceland 6-5 in overtime to win the "A" victory.

Meanwhile down in

Vermilion on Saturday the Micro Novice Tornadoes were in a tournament as well, playing Vermilion in the first game to an 8-all tie. Dustin Pankiw and Ross Hawryluk with hat tricks, Tammy Roberts and Hayden Ludlage with singles. The Tornadoes pulled off a big 11 to 6 win in their second game over Hardisty. Dustin Pankiw, Ross Hawryluk and Hayden Ludlage all with hat tricks, Tammy Roberts with a single and scoring his first goal ever, and certainly not his last, Keaton Hawryluk.

The Pee wee Avalanche are on a roll. Their month-long winning streak continued Sunday when they played in Neilburg with a final score 9 - 1 for the Avalanche.

Scoring for Elk Point were Logan Becker and Daniel Garrett, each with a hat trick and two assists, Trevor Ballas with two goals and one assist, Rylan Buffalo with a single. "Bruise Brother" Andrew Jenner added two assists and Skyler Ewasiuk another helper.

The Avalanche spent a lot of time in the "sin bin" with Jarred McGilver, both Bruise Brothers, Skyler Ewasiuk, Logan Becker,

Trevor Ballas, Daniel Garrett and Rylee Pankiw all taking their turn in the box for a variety of misdeeds.

This was a pretty rough game Dakota Amyotte was sent to the hospital with a possible concussion after a hard hit. Andrew Jenner and a Neilburg player each earned a 10-minute misconduct for the most serious scuffle of the game.

The Avs now move into second place in the league with 20 points. Kitscoty is first, Lloyd #2 is third and Dewberry fourth, according to the last updated stats from the governor.

This coming week the Pee wee Avs play Lloydminster in Elk Point at 6 p.m., Friday they take on Lloyd #2 in Elk Point at 8 p.m., and Saturday they travel to Kitscoty for a 1 p.m. game to complete their league schedule.

And now for the K.A. Campbell quote of the week- "The Russians are the dirtiest players I've ever seen." Last week's answer to- "For the most part, with the possible exception of me, I don't think anybody goes out to try to hurt somebody." - Jeremy Roenick.

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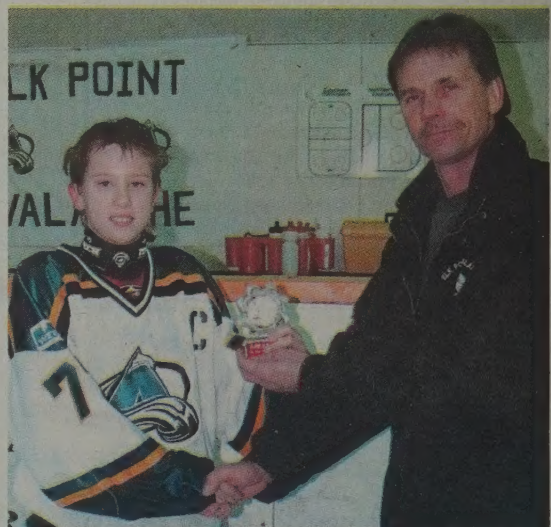


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